

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:16-cv-01869-KBJ**

GUARDIAN NEWS & MEDIA LIMITED v. DEPARTMENT  
OF JUSTICE  
Assigned to: Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 09/19/2016  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**GUARDIAN NEWS & MEDIA  
LIMITED**

represented by **Jeffrey Louis Light**  
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**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

V.

**Defendant**

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

represented by **R. Charlie Merritt**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE –  
RICHMOND  
Civil Division  
919 East Main Street  
Suite 1900  
Richmond, VA 23219  
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**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Marsha Wellknown Yee**  
U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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**TERMINATED: 01/06/2017**

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
09/19/2016	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-4679405) filed by GUARDIAN NEWS & MEDIA LIMITED. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons Attorney General, # <u>3</u> Summons Department of Justice, # <u>4</u> Summons USAO)(Light, Jeffrey) (Entered: 09/19/2016)
09/19/2016	<u>2</u>	LCvR 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by GUARDIAN NEWS & MEDIA LIMITED (Light, Jeffrey) (Entered: 09/19/2016)
09/20/2016		Case Assigned to Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson. (zsb) (Entered: 09/20/2016)

09/20/2016	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Consent Form)(zsb) (Entered: 09/20/2016)
09/20/2016	<u>4</u>	GENERAL ORDER AND GUIDELINES FOR CIVIL CASES BEFORE JUDGE KETANJI BROWN JACKSON. The Court will hold the parties and counsel responsible for following these directives, and parties and counsel should pay particular attention to the Courts instructions for briefing motions. Failure to adhere to this Order may, when appropriate, result the imposition of sanctions and/or sua sponte denial of non-conforming motions. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 9/20/2016. (lckbj1) (Entered: 09/20/2016)
09/27/2016	<u>5</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE served on 9/27/2016, RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 09/27/2016., RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 9/27/2016. ( Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 10/27/2016.) (Light, Jeffrey) (Entered: 09/27/2016)
10/25/2016	<u>6</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Marsha Wellknown Yee on behalf of DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Yee, Marsha) (Entered: 10/25/2016)
10/25/2016	<u>7</u>	Unopposed MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>File Defendant's Response to Plaintiff's Complaint</i> by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Yee, Marsha) (Entered: 10/25/2016)
10/26/2016		MINUTE ORDER granting, for good cause shown, <u>7</u> Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time to Answer. It is hereby ORDERED that Defendant shall answer or otherwise respond to the complaint on or before 1/6/2017. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 10/26/2016. (lckbj1) (Entered: 10/26/2016)
01/05/2017	<u>8</u>	NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Robert Charles Merritt, III on behalf of DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Substituting for attorney Marsha W. Yee (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 01/05/2017)
01/06/2017	<u>9</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.(Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 01/06/2017)
01/06/2017	<u>10</u>	NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPEARANCE as to DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. Attorney Marsha Wellknown Yee terminated. (Yee, Marsha) (Entered: 01/06/2017)
01/06/2017		MINUTE ORDER. Before the Court in this FOIA case are a complaint and an answer. It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall promptly confer and file a joint proposed schedule for briefing or disclosure, on or before 1/20/2017. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 1/6/2017. (lckbj1) (Entered: 01/06/2017)
01/23/2017	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 01/23/2017)
01/24/2017		MINUTE ORDER. Based on the representations made in the parties' <u>11</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 3/24/2017, the parties shall file a further status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 1/24/2017. (lckbj1) (Entered: 01/24/2017)
03/24/2017	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by GUARDIAN NEWS & MEDIA LIMITED. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Light, Jeffrey) (Entered: 03/24/2017)
03/27/2017		MINUTE ORDER. Based on the representations made in the parties' <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that, on or before 4/3/2017, the parties shall file a further status report, which shall include a proposed schedule for further proceedings if litigation is going to be necessary. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 03/27/2017. (lckbj1) (Entered: 03/27/2017)

04/03/2017	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 04/03/2017)
04/05/2017		MINUTE ORDER. Based on the representations in the parties' <u>13</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that: (1) The FBI shall process for production/withholding a minimum of 600 pages of potentially responsive records and make an interim production of non-exempt records that are subject to FOIA and responsive to Plaintiff's 2016 FOIA Requests on or before 6/1/2017; (2) Following the 6/1/2017 production, the FBI shall process for production/withholding 500 pages of potentially responsive records per month until the FBI has processed all records responsive to Plaintiff's 2016 FOIA Requests. The FBI shall make interim production of non-exempt records that are subject to FOIA and responsive to Plaintiff's 2016 FOIA Requests on or before the first day of every month, beginning on 7/1/2017; and (3) The parties shall file joint status reports, to include the FBI's progress conducting cross-reference searches for Plaintiff's requested search items, every 30 days. The first such status report shall be filed by no later than 6/8/2017. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 04/05/2017. (lckbj1) (Entered: 04/05/2017)
06/08/2017	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 06/08/2017)
07/10/2017	<u>15</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 07/10/2017)
08/09/2017	<u>16</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 08/09/2017)
09/08/2017	<u>17</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 09/08/2017)
10/11/2017	<u>18</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 10/11/2017)
11/08/2017	<u>19</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 11/08/2017)
12/08/2017	<u>20</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 12/08/2017)
01/08/2018	<u>21</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 01/08/2018)
02/07/2018	<u>22</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 02/07/2018)
03/09/2018	<u>23</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 03/09/2018)
04/09/2018	<u>24</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 04/09/2018)
05/09/2018	<u>25</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT <i>and Proposed Modification to Processing Schedule</i> by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 05/09/2018)
05/14/2018		MINUTE ORDER ADOPTING parties' Joint Proposed Modification to Processing Schedule. It is hereby ORDERED that the FBI shall make its next interim production on June 15, 2018, and shall continue to process for production/withholding 500 pages of potentially responsive records per month until the FBI has processed all records responsive to Plaintiffs 2016 FOIA Requests, making interim productions on or before the 15th of every month thereafter. It is FURTHER ORDERED that the parties shall file their next joint status report on or before June 22, 2018, and every 30 days thereafter. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 05/14/2018. (lckbj1) (Entered: 05/14/2018)
06/22/2018	<u>26</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 06/22/2018)

07/23/2018	<u>27</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 07/23/2018)
08/22/2018	<u>28</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 08/22/2018)
09/10/2018	<u>29</u>	NOTICE of Change of Address by Robert Charles Merritt (Merritt, Robert) (Entered: 09/10/2018)
09/21/2018	<u>30</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, R.) (Entered: 09/21/2018)
09/21/2018	<u>31</u>	SUPERSEDING GENERAL ORDER AND GUIDELINES FOR FOIA CASES ASSIGNED TO JUDGE KETANJI BROWN JACKSON. This Order supersedes this Courts prior <u>4</u> General Order and Guidelines for Civil Cases. The Court will hold the parties and counsel responsible for following these amended directives, and parties and counsel should pay particular attention to the Court's instructions for processing and production of records, batching motions, and filing exhibits. Failure to adhere to this Order may, when appropriate, result the imposition of sanctions and/or sua sponte denial of non-conforming motions. Signed by Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on 9/21/2018. (lckbj1) (Entered: 09/21/2018)
10/23/2018	<u>32</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, R.) (Entered: 10/23/2018)
11/21/2018	<u>33</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, R.) (Entered: 11/21/2018)
12/21/2018	<u>34</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Merritt, R.) (Entered: 12/21/2018)